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US AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT Office of Afghanistan & Pakistan Affairs (OAPA)

Initial Environmental Examination Amendment 3

PROGRAM/ACTIVITY DATA

Country Code and Goal: 306 and Afghan-led sustainable development

Development Objective(s): 306-01: Foundation created for sustainable, agricultural-led economic growth
306-02: Social gains enhanced and sustained
306-03: Performance and legitimacy of GIROA improved

Country or Region: Afghanistan

Activity Name(s): *Afghan Women's Empowerment Project (AWEP)*
former names *Promoting Gender Equity in the National Priority Programs (PROMOTE)* and *Women in Transition (WIT)*

Funding Period: 04/2014²⁰¹⁴ 03/2019 (5 years) but period of performance for a task order may not go beyond 3 years after the end of the ordering period of the IQC, and a task order may not be awarded for a period of performance of more than five (5) years, including extensions).

LOP Amount: \$416 million ceiling (\$313 million USAID; up to \$103 million from interested international donors)

IEE prepared by: Kristen Cordell and Alison Case

IEE Amendment: 3 (original IEE: OAPA-13-OCT-AFG-0001, appr. 10/10/2012, for WIT; Promote IEE Am. 1: OAPA-13-JUN-AFG-0046, appr. 6/12/2013; Amendment 2: OAPA-14-DEC-AFG-0007, appr. 12/2/2013)

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION RECOMMENDED: (Place X where applicable)

Categorical Exclusion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deferral	<input type="checkbox"/>
Positive Determination	<input type="checkbox"/>	Negative Determination	<input type="checkbox"/>
Negative Determination With Conditions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exemption	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.0 PURPOSE, BACKGROUND AND ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

1.1 Purpose and Scope of the Amended IEE

This Amendment 3 expands the scope of the project to include two new components – Gender Legacy Initiatives and Gender Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation (GENMEL) – and change the name of the project to Afghan Women's Empowerment Project (AWEP).

All elements and activities of the previously approved IEE and Amendments 1 and 2 remain in effect for the PROMOTE sub-components of Women in the Economy, Women's Rights Groups and Coalitions, Women in Government, and Women's Leadership Development.

USAID contribution to AWEF increases from \$216 million to \$313 million; total ceiling including other donor contributions is expected to remain at \$416 million.

The Gender Legacy Initiatives, it should be noted, was the original \$84 million removed through Amendment 2.

1.2 Background

The original IEE for PROMOTE was approved on October 10, 2012 and Amendment #1 on June 12, 2013. Amendment #2, approved on December 2, 2013, included an: 1) addition of descriptions for each of the PROMOTE project components and 2) revision to Program and Activity Data information, to include a reduction in funding from \$500 million to \$313 million for this period.

USAID/Afghanistan developed the PROMOTE Project as a vigorous, long-term investment in women's productivity, designed to enable a critical mass of women to enter mainstream sectors of Afghan society to serve as a catalyst for change through increased participation and leadership in decision-making within government, civil society, and the economy.

In May 2013, USAID Administrator Dr. Rajiv Shah requested the development of "institutional gender legacies" to advance the efforts of PROMOTE on a sustainable basis, well after the project has concluded (meeting with the Administrator on Tuesday May 14, 2013). The overall aim of the legacies is to provide a lasting means by which Afghan women will continue to benefit from the necessary support to ensure their integration into Afghan society. This will be accomplished through the new Gender Legacy Initiatives component. The Gender Legacy Initiatives includes three mutually reinforcing sub-components:

1. The USAID American-Afghan Scholarship Program for Women;
2. Gender and Development Studies Institute at Kabul University; and
3. E-Learning Initiative at the American University of Afghanistan (AUAF).

Upon review of the PROMOTE solicitation by the Contract Review Board in 2013, it was recommended that the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirement be removed from the IQC as the awardee would not be eligible to submit proposals under the IQC or receive IQC task orders, due to conflicts of interest. In accordance with this recommendation, the Mission removed the M&E services requirement from the IQC and submitted a recommendation that these services be performed under a stand-alone contract. In order to align the M&E services for PROMOTE with the new Gender Legacy Initiatives, as well as the Mission's other Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GE/WE) primary project – the Ministry of Women's Affairs Restructuring and Women's Empowerment (MORE) Project, which was approved under its own Activity Approval Document on March 28, 2012 – a new Gender Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (GENMEL) component is being incorporated into this PAD amendment.

Thus, this IEE Amendment aligns PROMOTE, the Gender Legacy Initiatives, and GENMEL under AWEF. All components and related under the previous PROMOTE will become sub-components under AWEF.

1.3 Activity Description

The new activities are described below. There are no changes in the other activities (PROMOTE) described in the previous Amendment.

Gender Legacy Initiatives

The Gender Legacy Initiatives have been created to enhance the lasting impact of PROMOTE and other USAID programming, with a focus on gender equality and women's empowerment in Afghanistan. It consists of three main sub-components.

The USAID American-Afghan Scholarship Program for Women

The USAID American-Afghan Scholarship Program for Women has two main objectives: (i) increase the visibility of the United States' commitment to Afghan women and girls; and (ii) equip Afghan women with the professional skills and knowledge required to promote equality, development, and stability. It will enable increasing numbers of exceptional Afghan female students to undertake and complete higher education. The USAID American-Afghan Scholarship Program for Women will leverage relationships with private and public sector partners as well as institutes of higher education in Afghanistan, in the region, and in the United States. Scholarships will be highly competitive, and awards will be made based on a combination of merit and need. The yearly class of scholarship recipients will be approximately 200, with variations to ensure scale up and scale down of activities. Scholarships will be for four-year undergraduate degrees, graduate degrees, and two to three year professional programs. It is also envisioned that a relatively small number of specialized, shorter-term technical training and certificate programs will be included, as well as shorter-term study abroad opportunities.

Gender and Development Studies Institute at Kabul University

The Gender and Development Studies Institute will strengthen women's participation in political, economic, and social spheres in Afghanistan. A steering committee comprised of representatives from MoHE, MoWA, USAID, and other relevant stakeholders will guide the development of the Institute and its location within Kabul University's academic structure

The Gender and Development Studies Institute will provide a physical legacy of the AWEF commitment as it will be located on the campus of Kabul University. The Gender and Development Studies Institute will provide a centralized location for the discussion and advancement of gender and development issues, which may include a speaker series, academic exchanges, and visiting professorships. The establishment of the Institute will provide an enabling environment to foster policy discussions, share best practices to promote the advancement of women, engage leaders and gender advocates, etc. It may also generate research and practical tools that will contribute to advances in women's status and will utilize research and lessons learned generated through PROMOTE to achieve the overall objectives of AWEF. Potential new Construction activities are anticipated under the Gender and Development Studies Institute.

E-Learning Initiative at the American University of Afghanistan (AUAF)

The E-Learning Initiative will contribute to learning outreach, support, and resources for electronic-learning (e-learning) at universities and other partner learning institutions throughout the country. This sub-component will focus on both the design and deployment of applications that will enhance the status of women and girls, and ensure that they are fully integrated into ongoing and planned information communications technology training and capacity building efforts to channel women into technology sector jobs. It will accelerate and improve distance learning platforms designed for Afghan women and girls. This platform will work with other elements of the institute and partners to create and disseminate curated content for Afghan women outside of Kabul, using the broad reach of mobile telephony and broadband to establish "virtual campuses or classrooms" for Afghan women unable to be physically present at the institute. Thus, this sub-component will include the purchase of computers and other educational office equipment like printers and copy machines.

GENMEL

GENMEL will provide M&E services to PROMOTE and its respective task orders, the Ministry of Women's Affairs Restructuring and Women's Empowerment (MORE) project, and the Gender Legacy Initiatives. GENMEL will supplement existing M&E efforts by USAID/Afghanistan staff and implementing partners. GENMEL will encompass five components: 1) development and implementation of a knowledge management strategy to facilitate communication within a community of practice, 2) provision of supplemental monitoring and verification support, 3) completion of performance and impact evaluations and gender analyses, 4) awareness building of the effectiveness of USAID's gender projects through sharing of lessons learned among stakeholders and implementers, and 5) logistical support to PROMOTE's Advisory Committee.

2.0 RECOMMENDED THRESHOLD DECISIONS

The table below lists activities covered under AWEP, including the new Gender Legacy Initiatives and GENMEL activities, in addition to the PRMOTÉ activities discussed in the previous Amendment.

AWEP Component	Sub-component	Activities	Effect on Natural or Physical Environment	Determination and Reg. 216 actions required
Gender Legacy Initiatives	1. The USAID American-Afghan Scholarship Program for Women;	All AWEP Components Level of effort: 80% of AWEP funding All project activities that do not have an effect on the natural or physical environment:	No effect on the environment	Categorical Exclusion. no actions required. Under 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(i), (iii), (v) and (xiv), excluded proposed activities are within the classes of actions such as analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings
	2. Gender and Development Studies Institute at Kabul University; and 3. E-Learning Initiative at the American University of Afghanistan (AUAF).	1. Courses and training programs including business, vocational, women's rights, organizational and leadership training 2. Transportation and travel expenses and stipends for in-country, third country and U.S. for women participants 3. Scholarships for in-country, third country and U.S. for women participants 4. Analyses, studies, research or project workshops and meetings, career guidance, mentorship and networking intended to inform and develop the capacity of women participants Grants to support activities, such as research, studies, workshops and meetings that advance women's rights, welfare and opportunities		
Gender Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (GENMEL)	1) development and implementation of a knowledge management strategy to facilitate communication within a community of practice; 2) provision of supplemental monitoring and verification support; 3) completion of performance and impact evaluations	All AWEP Components Level of Effort: 20% of AWEP funding All project activities that will have a minor effect on the natural or physical environment: 1. Procurement of office furniture, such as tables, desks, shelving, chairs and stationery for Business/Employment/Training Centers, and other project supported start ups 2. Procurement of generators, fuel and construction materials and small electrical appliances (lighting, heaters) 3. Procurement of ICT equipment and other office machines, software for data management and training and general office use	Limited potential impacts with standard designs, best industry practice, adherence to construction, Occupational Health and Sanitation (OHS), norms and standards, use of	Negative Determination with Conditions: a. The implementer is required to review the adequacy of the environmental capabilities of the contractors to be involved. Implementer will ensure that appropriate environmental standards and best industry practices for monitoring and mitigation plans are followed by the contractors.

<p>Promoting Gender Equity in the National Priority Programs (PROMOTE)</p>	<p>and gender analyses; 4) awareness building of the effectiveness of USAID's gender projects through sharing of lessons learned among stakeholders and implementers; 5) logistical support to PROMOTE's Advisory Committee.</p>	<p>4. Small scale repair and rehabilitation of existing buildings and facilities: a. Water wells and water supply systems, including the pipe and tap stand b. Bathrooms c. Damaged culverts d. Painting e. Repairs to roofs, doors, locks, and windows 5. Planning and construction of Gender Institute. a. Potential construction of a new building if Kabul University does not provide enough space. b. If they provide space we will only do refurbishment.</p>	<p>personal protective equipment</p>	<p>b. The implementer will ensure that equipment is used in an environmentally sound and safe manner and properly disposed of at the end of its useful life in a manner consistent with best management practices according to U.S., European Union or equivalent standards acceptable to USAID c. Implementer shall incorporate acceptable construction procedures d. Implementer will ensure that for all activities that have adverse impact on the environment, appropriate environmental mitigation measures are implemented along with the work. Environmental and social considerations will be integrated into design and planning of all such activities. e. For activities involving provision of potable water, Implementer shall ensure safety by testing water at a reputable laboratory for arsenic, coliform bacteria, and other key contaminants. Potable water shall meet USG standard for arsenic. Water quality standards, either host country or WHO in the absence of those, shall be specified. Procedures regarding safe water provision shall be described in a Water Quality Assurance Plan, which shall be reviewed and approved by the MEO (Annex 1). f. For sub-activities under AWEPP, an Environmental Review Form (ERF) and if warranted an Environmental Review Report (ERR) and an</p>
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					Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Report (EMMP) shall be submitted to the MEO for approval before a funding decision is made (Annex 2).
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3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Categorical Exclusion

a) Recommended Action: *Categorical Exclusion* (estimated 80% of funding)

AWEP activities for training, scholarships, workshops, leadership development, career guidance, networking, mentorship, monitoring, performance and impact evaluations, outreach, research, and other similar types that do not have an effect on the natural and physical environment fit within the categories listed in 22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2) and are categorically excluded from any further environmental review requirements. The originator of the proposed action has determined that the proposed activities are within the following classes of actions:

- Education, technical assistance, or training programs, except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.). [22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(i)];
- Analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings. [22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(iii)];
- Document and information transfers. [22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(v)]; and
- Studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries to engage in development planning, except to the extent designed to result in activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.). [22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(xiv)].

b) Recommended Action: *Negative Determination* (estimated 20% of funding)

The AWEP activities are all considered to be small-scale: procurement of generators, fuel, and construction materials; repair and rehabilitation of public facilities and infrastructure; and hand dug wells. These activities are expected to have minor or insignificant effects on the natural and physical environment and must have appropriate measures in place to mitigate negative consequences. Hand dug wells shall be tested for pathogens and other harmful substances if used as a potable water supply.

The proposed action is that the Implementers shall provide evidence that equipment, commodities, and materials procured for construction management and construction activities are used in safe way and that all applicable national and international environmental laws are followed. The Implementer will also submit an Environmental Review Form (ERF) and Environmental Review Report (ERR) and an Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP) to document existing environmental conditions, foreseeable environmental effects resulting from each activity and measures to mitigate impact. The ERF/ERR and EMMP shall be reviewed and approved by the Mission Environmental Officer (MEO) and if warranted in consultation with the Regional Environmental Advisor (REA/ OAPA). No on-site activities shall commence before the ERF/ERR documentation and EMMP are approved by the MEO. The EMMP shall be implemented during the subject work. The Standard Conditions List may be used as a guide in developing the EMMP. (See <http://www.encapfrica.org/egssaa.htm>)

Continuous environmental monitoring, evaluation, reporting and supervision will be conducted during the project implementation. Quarterly, semi-annual and annual reports, as applicable, will contain sections on environmental compliance. The implementer(s) will

submit an Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP) within 30 days of the signing of the award. An EMMP template is provided in Annex 3.

All conditions approved for the PROMOTE in the original IEE and Amendments 1 and 2 remain in force.

Procurement and/or use of pesticides, as established by the US EPA, shall be in accordance with the USAID Afghanistan Programmatic Pesticide Evaluation Report and Safer Use Action Plan (<http://gemini.info.usaid.gov/egat/envcomp/repository/pdf/39391.pdf>).

A/COR together with the MEO shall explain the approved conditions to the implementer(s).

4.0 Limitations of the IEE

This assistance does not cover activities involving:

1. Procurement or use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) which will require preparation of a bio-safety assessment (review), in accordance with ADS 201.3.11 in an amendment to the IEE approved by BEO/OAPA.
2. Procurement or use of Asbestos, Lead and Mercury Containing Materials (ALCM) (e.g., piping, roofing), Polychlorinated Biphenyl's (PCB) or other hazardous materials prohibited by US EPA as provided at:
<http://www.epa.gov/asbestos> and/or under international environmental agreements and conventions, e.g. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants as provided at: <http://chm.pops.int>.
3. Procurement, use or recommendation for use of AN and CAN fertilizers.

Any of these actions would require an amendment to the IEE duly approved by the BEO/OAPA.


5.0 REVISIONS

Pursuant to 22 CFR 216.3(a)(9), if new information becomes available which indicates that activities to be funded by the project might be "major" and the project's effect "significant," or if additional activities are proposed that might be considered "major" and their effects significant, this IEE will be reviewed and revised by the originator of the project and submitted to the BEO/OAPA for approval and, if appropriate, an environmental assessment will be prepared. It is the responsibility of the USAID COR/AOR to keep the Mission Environmental Officer, USAID/Afghanistan and the BEO/OAPA informed of any new information or changes in scope and nature of the activity that might require revision of the IEE.

APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS
*Afghan Women's Empowerment Project (AWEP)*¹ Amendment 3

CLEARANCES:


AOR/COR


Fazel Lo Rahim 4/8/2014
Date

Deputy Director, OPPD


Kevin Smith 4-9-14
Date

Mission Environmental Officer


Harry Bottenberg 4/8/2014
Date

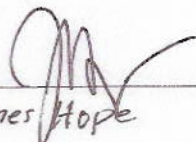
Regional Environmental Advisor
for Asia and OAPA

concurred by email 4/8/2014
Andrei Barannik Date


Regional Legal Advisor


Julie Southfield 4.9.2014.
Date

Deputy Mission Director

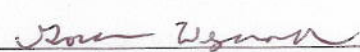

James Hope 4/16/14
Date

Mission Director


William Hammink 19 April 2014
Date

APPROVAL:

Bureau Environmental Officer
OAPA


Gordon Weynand 4/24/14
Date

DISTRIBUTION: MEO, COR/AOR, OAA, RLA

OAPA Tracking #: OAPA-14-APR-AFG-0037

¹ former names *Promoting Gender Equity in the National Priority Programs (PROMOTE)*
and *Women in Transition (WIT)*

Bottenberg, Harry

From: Andrei Barannik <abarannik@usaid.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2014 10:01 AM
To: Bottenberg, Harry
Cc: Ali, Basharat
Subject: Re: DRAFT AWEP (=PROMOTE) IEE Amendment 3
Attachments: AWEP IEE Am#3.doc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Harry and Bash - reviewed as a priority matter - my edits are in the attached. Please have a clean copy duly signed in the Mission, put "concurred by e-mail" on REA line and send it to Gordon Weynand, BEO/OAPA (cced Megan Strembitsky) for his review and approval. W/R & stay safe, Andrei P.S. It'll be great that the project has good PROMOTE environmental files and distilled some environmental lessons learned.

On Tue, Apr 8, 2014 at 10:53 AM, Bottenberg, Harry <HBottenberg@state.gov> wrote:
Maybe it got lost in the shuffle; here it is.

Bash is very eager to have the PAD Amendment signed by Bill but is waiting for the IEE Amendment.

Harry Bottenberg, Ph.D.

Mission Environmental Officer

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From: Andrei Barannik [mailto:abarannik@usaid.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2014 9:10 AM
To: Bottenberg, Harry
Subject: Fwd: DRAFT AWEP (=PROMOTE) IEE Amendment 3

Annex 1

Water Quality Assurance Plan

Potential environmental impacts:

The human health benefits of water and sanitation activities are enormous, and generally far outweigh any potential negative impacts of such activities. Still, the potential for adverse environmental impacts from water and sanitation activities exists, and it is the responsibility of program designers and implementers to avoid such impacts to the extent possible. Potential adverse impacts from water and sanitation activities can be summarized as follows:

Potential adverse impacts from water supply activities:

1. Depletion of fresh water resources (surface and groundwater)
2. Chemical degradation of the quality of potable water sources (surface and groundwater)
3. Creation of stagnant (standing) water
4. Degradation of terrestrial, aquatic, and coastal habitats
5. Increased human health risks (e.g. from arsenic content in groundwater)

Potential adverse impacts from sanitation activities:

1. Increased human health risks from contamination of surface water, groundwater, soil, and food by excreta, chemicals and pathogens
2. Ecological harm from degradation of stream, lake, estuarine and marine water quality and degradation of land habitats

Water and Sanitation conditions:

To mitigate potential effects of inadequate drinking water quality, the Implementing partners shall:

- a) Prepare a *Water Quality Assurance Plan* that describes monitoring criteria, monitoring frequency, and measures for ensuring the safe provision of water to recipients.

The *Water Quality Assurance Plan* shall describe how the partner intends to ensure safe drinking water in the project. The *Water Quality Assurance Plan* shall include:

A) Water Quality Assurance Plan

(1) Water quality standards and criteria that partner intends to meet (this should include WHO and host country water quality standards and monitoring requirements; this section can be updated for each country when the partner begins operations in a country. For information on WHO standards, see

http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/dwq/gdwq0506.pdf for guidance on meeting WHO recommendations.);

(2) Measures to ensure partners continue to meet the above water quality standards and criteria;

(3) Frequency of testing and monitoring, by contaminant;

(4) Responsible parties for testing and monitoring;

(5) Location of laboratory to be used;

(6) Measures for host-country and USAID reporting;

(7) Measures to correct any water quality issue that is found out of compliance; and

(8) Notification measures (to USAID, host-country, and school/community) that will be taken if the water quality at a borehole is found to be out of compliance.

B) Equipment Inspection and Maintenance Plan

(1) Equipment maintenance requirements and schedule

(2) Responsible parties for maintenance

(3) Maintenance reporting requirements

While the Partner may propose alternative means of ensuring that water quality does not present a risk to human health, the analyses and standards that the Partner proposes should be based on sound risk assessment and should be science-based.

The table below provides a summary of standard recommendations that should be followed to minimize potential impacts of inadequate water quality.

Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a "sanitary seal" on top of the well casing to prevent any contaminants from going directly down the borehole through the casing. The area around the borehole should be sloped away from the casing to prevent contamination from surface run-off. • Locate the fill line into the storage tank above the overflow with an air gap of at least 2 pipe diameters or 6 inches (152.4 mm). • Vent the storage tank with a u-shaped, down-facing opening that is screened to keep air-borne contaminants, bugs and birds out of the tank. • Direct overflow away from the borehole. Also, ensure an air gap above the overflow outlet. • Protect the communal tap from back-siphoning with a check valve or another anti-siphon device.
Disinfection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use an erosion chlorinator to treat the water automatically as it enters the tank. This is proposed as the most effective <u>and cost-effective</u> approach to water quality assurance.
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspect tanks daily to ensure that the hatch is closed, the vent and screens are intact, etc. • Clean tank at least annually and more frequently if there is noticeable sediment in the tank. If the system is not chlorinated, we recommend monthly cleanings.
Water Quality Assurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select a good quality groundwater source. • Install the system correctly, clean and disinfect system, and test water quality again after installation is complete. • Install disinfection equipment. • Maintain system properly. • Monitor for a disinfection residual.
Public notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise the public, in a thoughtful and careful manner, about the possible risks associated with long-term consumption.

Environmental Review Form for subprojects/subgrants

A. Applicant information

Organization	Parent grant or project
Individual contact and title	Address, phone & email (if available)
Proposed subproject /subgrant (brief description)	Amount of funding requested
	Period of performance
	Location(s) of proposed activities

B. Activities, screening results, and findings

Proposed activities (Provide DESCRIPTIVE listing. Continue on additional page if necessary)	Screening result (Step 3 of instructions)			Findings (Step 6 of instructions. Complete for all moderate/unknown and high-risk activities ONLY)		
	Very Low Risk	High-Risk*	Moderate or unknown risk*	significant adverse impacts are very unlikely	With specified mitigation, significant adverse impacts are very unlikely	Significant Adverse impacts are possible
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						
8.						

*These screening results require completion of an Environmental Review Report

C. Certification:

I, the undersigned, certify that:

1. The information on this form and accompanying environmental review report (if any) is correct and complete.
2. Implementation of these activities will not go forward until specific approval is received from the C/AOTR.
3. All mitigation and monitoring measures specified in the Environmental Review Report will be implemented in their entirety, and that staff charged with this implementation will have the authority, capacity and knowledge for successful implementation.

(Signature) _____ (Date) _____

(Print name) _____ (Title) _____

Note: if screening results for any activity are "high risk" or "moderate or unknown risk," this form is not complete unless accompanied by an environmental review report.

BELOW THIS LINE FOR USAID USE ONLY

Notes:

1. For clearance to be granted, the activity MUST be within the scope of the activities for which use of the ERF is authorized in the governing IEE. **Review IEE before signature.** If activities are outside this scope, deny clearance and provide explanation in comments section. The Partner, C/AOTR, MEO and REA must then confer regarding next steps: activity re-design, an IEE or EA.
2. Clearing an ERF containing one or more findings that **significant adverse impacts are possible** indicates agreement with the analysis and findings. It does NOT authorize activities for which "significant adverse impacts are possible" to go forward. It DOES authorize other activities to go forward. The Partner, C/AOTR, MEO and REA must then confer regarding next steps: activity re-design, an IEE or EA.

Clearance record

C/AOTR <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance given <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance denied	(print name)	(signature)	(date)
USAID/Afghanistan MEO <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance given <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance denied	(print name)	(signature)	(date)
Regional Env. Advisor (REA) <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance given <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance denied	(print name)	(signature)	(date)
Bureau Env. Officer (BEO)* <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance given <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance denied	(print name)	(signature)	(date)

C/AOTR, MEO and REA clearance is required. BEO clearance is required for all "high risk" screening results and for findings of "significant adverse impacts possible. The BEO may review "

Note: if clearance is denied, comments must be provided to applicant
(use space below & attach sheets if necessary)

Annex 2 (Continued)

Environmental Review Report

- A. Summary of Proposal.** *Very briefly summarize background, rationale and outputs/results expected. (Reference proposal, if appropriate).*
- B. Description of Activities.** *For all moderate and high-risk activities listed in Section B of the ERF, succinctly describe location, siting, surroundings (include a map, even a sketch map). Provide both quantitative and qualitative information about actions needed during all project phases and who will undertake them. (All of this information can be provided in a table). If various alternatives have been considered and rejected because the proposed activity is considered more environmentally sound, explain these.*
- C. Site-specific Environmental Situation & Host Country Requirements.** *Describe the environmental characteristics of the site(s) where the proposed activities will take place. Focus on site characteristics of concern—e.g., water supplies, animal habitat, steep slopes, etc. With regard to these critical characteristics, is the environmental situation at the site degrading, improving, or stable?*
- Also note applicable host country environmental regulations and/or policies. (For example, does the project require host country environmental review or permitting? Building approval? Etc.)*
NOTE: *provide site-specific information in this section, NOT country-level information. General information about country level conditions should already be contained in the IEE governing the XXX project/program.*
- D. Environmental Issues, Mitigation Actions, and Findings.** *Using the table provided, identify all potential impacts for each activity. These must include all phases (planning & design, construction and handover, operation, and decommissioning). Explain direct, indirect, induced and cumulative effects on various components of the environment (e.g., air, water, geology, soils, vegetation, wildlife, aquatic resources, historic, archaeological or other cultural resources, people and their communities, land use, traffic, waste disposal, water supply, energy, etc.) Indicate also positive impacts and how the natural resources base will be sustainably improved. Identify actionable mitigation actions to avoid, reduce or compensate for negative impacts, such as restoration of borrow or quarry areas, replanting of vegetation, compensation for any relocation of homes and residents. Mitigation actions should be assigned to the responsible party, for example the construction contractor, the implementing partner, the beneficiaries.*

Project Phase and Activity	Potential Environmental Impact	Mitigation Action
Planning and Design		
Construction and Handover		
Operation		

Decommissioning		

- E. **Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP).** Set out how compliance with mitigation actions will be monitored/verified. This includes specifying WHO will be responsible for the various mitigation actions, and HOW implementation of the mitigation actions will be tracked/verified.

Also specify how you will report to USAID on the implementation of mitigation actions. (You are REQUIRED to provide your C/AOTR with sufficient information on the status of mitigation implementation for USAID to effectively fulfill its oversight and performance monitoring role.)

Again, choose a format and structure that presents the necessary information clearly and succinctly.

EMMPs are typically in table format, and often include a compliance log or "monitoring record" section that records implementation status of the various mitigation actions. The EMMP with current monitoring log can then simply be submitted to the C/AOTR with the quarterly or 6-month project report, satisfying the environmental compliance reporting requirement. .

The most basic EMMP format is

Mitigation action	Responsible Party	Monitoring/Verification Method	Monitoring Record (date, result, corrective actions taken, if any)

For additional EMMP formats and examples, see the ENCAP EMMP factsheet, available via www.encapafrica.org/meoEntry.htm

- F. **Other Information.** Where possible and as appropriate, include photos of the site and surroundings; maps; and list the names of any reference materials or individuals consulted.
(Pictures and maps of the site can substantially reduce the written description required in parts B & C)

Annex 3

Project Name

Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP)

The EMMP must be completed by each organization carrying out activities under the USAID/Afghanistan XXX Program. It will include the organization's own report plus the EMMPs of any sub-awardees, to capture the entire range of activities funded by the USAID/Afghanistan XXXX Program under the award. The USAID/Afghanistan XXXX Program, implementing partners are responsible for ensuring that each sub-awardee completes and submits the EMMP to the prime in a timely fashion. The EMMPs are reviewed and approved by the COTR/AOTR and the Mission Environmental Officer.

The EMMP consists of 3 parts:

1. The Environmental Verification Form
2. The Mitigation Plan for specific environmental threats carried out by the implementer
3. The Reporting Form

The EMMP Environmental Verification Form

This form indicates the categories of activities carried out by implementing partners (or their sub-awardees) and serves to 'trigger' USAID expectations of mitigation measures.

The EMMP Mitigation Plan

Implementing partners will use the Mitigation Plan to describe the specific actions they will undertake under each category of activity when screening reveals potential environmental threats as outlined in Section 3 of this IEE. In these cases, mitigation will be undertaken as described in Section 5, Table 4 of this IEE. The Mitigation Plan also identifies the person responsible for monitoring compliance with mitigation and the indicator, method and frequency of monitoring.

The EMMP Reporting Form

This form reports on the results of applying the mitigation measures described in the Mitigation Plan and identifies outstanding issues with respect to required conditions. In some cases, digital photos will be the best way to document mitigation and should be included in the report.

1. EMMP Part 1 of 3: Environmental Verification Form

Name _____	Date of Screening: _____
Name of Prime Implementing Organization: _____	Funding Period for this award: FY____ - FY____
Name of Sub-awardee Organization (if this EMMP is for a sub): _____	Current FY Resource Levels: FY_____
Geographic location of USAID-funded activities (Province, District): _____	This report prepared by: Name: _____ Date: _____
	Date of Previous EMMP for this organization: _____ (if any)

Indicate which activities your organization is implementing under this funding:

Key Elements of Program/Activities Implemented		Yes	No
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • education, technical assistance or training programs • analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings; • document and information transfers; • Studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries to engage in development planning, except to the extent designed to result in activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.); 		
2	Development and dissemination of improved agricultural production technologies for selected crops and livestock		
3	Increased agricultural production		
4	Seeds, Germplasm, Exotic Species		
5	Dissemination of biotechnology products		
6	Small-scale construction or rehabilitation of buildings and water & sanitation infrastructure		
7	Sub-Grants		

2.

6. Certification

I certify the completeness and the accuracy of the mitigation and monitoring plan described above for which I am responsible and its compliance with the IEE:

Signature

Date

Print Name

Organization

BELOW THIS LINE FOR USAID USE ONLY

USAID/Afghanistan, _____ Program, Clearance of EMMP:

Agreements/Contracting Officer's Representative (A/COR): _____ Date: _____

Mission Environmental Officer: _____ Date: _____

As appropriate: REA, BEO [depending on nature of activity, which potentially may require an EA]

Note: if clearance is denied, comments must be provided to applicant